

# PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <b>2 March 1958</b>	2. LOCATION <b>Tampa, Florida</b>		12. CONCLUSIONS  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft  <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <b>Inconsistent Data</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <b>03/0145Z</b>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE <b>Civilian</b>		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION <b>about 15 minutes</b>	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <b>one</b>	9. COURSE <b>Rising</b>	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Reported that an object landed on runway that looked like a balloon. Had a bright light attached. Balloon then rose slowly and hovered just under clouds at 800 ft. After a short time it moved off and disappeared. Subsequent report was denied by the reporting unit.			11. COMMENTS Report that event took place and then denied that it occurred. No case.

RETURN TO:  
 Director  
 Aerospace Studies Inst  
 AITN: Archives Branch  
 Maxwell AFB, Alabama

K 243.6012-1  
 Mar 1958



2 03/01452 OTHER 020357-2 3

Multi COVER SHEET

ORIGIN OF BASIC: Office of Program Planning, Weather Bureau

DATE: 12 Ma 58

TYPE: Office Memo

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

ROUTING

Initial "IN" column to denote review prior to action. Initial "OUT" column to denote review of completed action. (X for action; ✓ for coordination.)

IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT
	OIN-1			OIN-2			OIN-3			OIN-4			AFOIN	
	OIN-1X			OIN-2X			OIN-3X			OIN-4X			AFOIN-X	
	1A1	m							X	CIN-4E4			AFOIN-X	
													AFOIN-X1	
													AFOIN-X2	
													AFOIN-X3	
													AFOIN-X4	
													AFOIN-X5	
													AFOIN-Z	
													CABLES	
													FILE	
													DISPATCH	

TO: AFCIN-4E4

FROM: AFCIN-1A1

DATE: 16 June 1958

COMMENT NO. 1

COMMENTS (Use reverse, if necessary)

AFCIN-1A1/Capt Copas/mn/71093

Forwarded for your disposition is attached unidentified flying object report.

1 Incl  
Office Memo a/s  
w/report

JAMES T. BULL  
Colonel, USAF  
AFCIN-1A1

March 2, 1958; Tampa, Florida:  
As reported by Station WTVT "Late News" the International Airport control tower crew saw a "large silent orange-lighted object" land on the far end of a runway and immediately take off again "like a helicopter." Later MacDill AFB said the object might be a lighted weather balloon released 30 minutes before the sighting. NCA notes: Only a serious leak would have caused the balloon to land and no balloon with such a leak would suddenly take off again.

1003498



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director of Intelligence  
USAF, Att: AFCIN 1A1

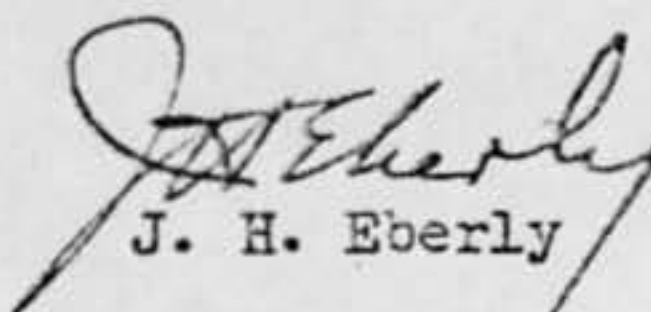
DATE: May 12, 1958

AO-1

FROM : Office of Program Planning,  
Weather Bureau

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

As discussed with Major Fountain of your office, this date, attached herewith are copies of correspondence with our Tampa office, concerning an unidentified flying object.

  
J. H. Eberly

Att.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

0-5

TO : MIC, WEAS, Tampa, Fla.

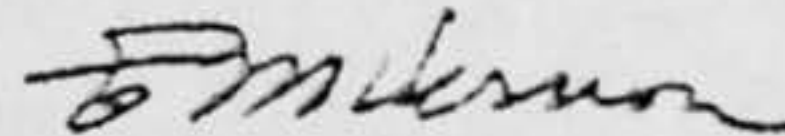
DATE: April 10, 1958

FROM : Chief, F&SR Division

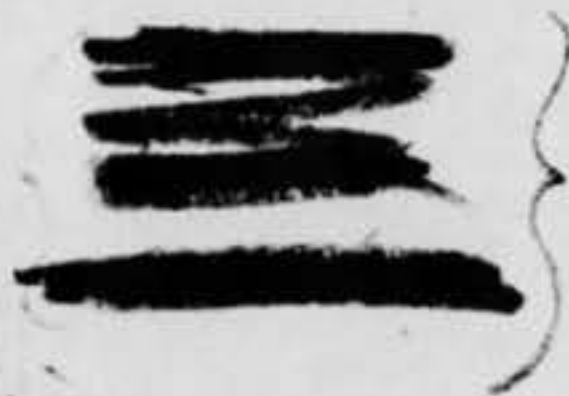
SUBJECT: RAWARC

Dear Bob:

Will you please check with the observer who was on duty at the time the attached report of "unidentified flying object" was transmitted on RAWARC and obtain details of basis for the report. Note that the report indicates tower sighted object but that according to JAX the TPA tower later denied sighting such object.

  
E. M. Vernon

Attachment.



413 personnel - March 2, 1958 - Sunday



C O P Y

ALL CKT DE TPA  
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT LANDED ON AIRPORT NORTH END 2050E  
AND THEN TOOK OFF. TOWER REPORTS WAS ORANGE COLORED WITH BRIGHT  
LIGHT WAS OBSERVED BY TOWER WITH BINOCULARS.  
WAS OBSERVED IN AIR BY 3 W.B. PERSONELL. MANEUVERED LIKE  
HELICOPTER BUT NO NOISE.

~~L~~ TPA DE WBC IS THAT A TRUE STATEMENT QQ

YES TRUE

OK TU MUCH

ANY IDEA OF WHAT THE SPEED WAS QQ

DIDNT SEEM FAST

TU

MUST BE FROM LI L ABNER

WBC

WBC A JAX

A CHECK WITH TPA TWR INDICATES NO UNUSUAL OBJECT  
ON THE TPA FIELD.

RHOTEN

JAX A WBC ROGER TNX MUCH

*This report is over 2 1/2 months old and  
is too old to initiate an investigation.*

*Tampa Tower reports the object and then  
apparently denies seeing the object. This  
is the only reports received from Tampa  
area on date reported.*

*Other (INCONSISTANT + Old)*

3/1/58



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Perry

DATE: April 17, 1958

FROM : Mr. Francis

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object.

1. Date of occurrence was Sunday evening, 8:45 to 9:00 P.M., E.S.T., March 2, 1958, not March 1.
2. Meteorological factors and pilot reports indicated severe, possibly extreme turbulence over Tampa and vicinity. Turbulence in varying degree- moderate to "heavy", according to pilot's reports, occurred throughout the afternoon and evening on March 2.  
The stability index, on the Tampa 0000Z, March 3, R/S observation was minus 3. This R/S was released approximately 2 hours before the object was reported.
3. This object was first reported to me by the Tampa tower. They wanted to know if we had released a large red balloon the size of the R/S balloons, with a bright light on it, adding that what appeared to be one had landed on the airport. I told them no, and was told they would send a truck out for it. Soon the tower called again and said it was rising- this time all

TO :

DATE:

FROM :

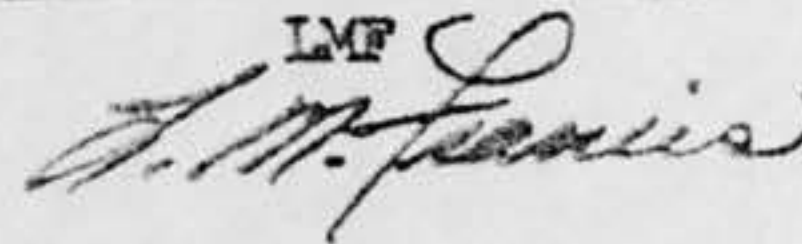
SUBJECT:

three of us on duty went outside and saw a rather bright light (white) hovering nearly stationary, just under the clouds. (ceiling was measured 800ft at 1958E and 2058E on March 2nd). After a short time, it moved off and disappeared.

Shortly thereafter, Mr. Burnham answered a call on the public telephone. It was from a man who said he and his girl friend, parked near the airport, had also seen the object descend and rise again. He told Mr. Burnham his girl friend was quite frightened by the incident. A short time later the Tampa tower denied seeing anything unusual.

P.S. Excuse G.I. typewriter

LMF



*ENTERED the information of  
the report denied seeing  
anything unusual*